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Attorney Docket No. WSS-10402/29

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: John J. McMillan

Serial No.: 09/189,559

Group Art Unit: 2177

Filing Date: November 11, 1998

Examiner: Srirama T. Channavajjala

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR IDENTIFYING AND RESOLVING
SOFTWARE CONFLICTS AND COMPUTER-READABLE STORAGE
MEDIUM HAVING A PROGRAM FOR EXECUTING THE METHOD

RESPONSE

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

FEB 24 2003

Dear Sir:

Technology Center 2100

In response to the Office Action mailed September 24, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks.

REMARKS

Applicant submits that the claims in the present application embody patentable subject matter that is not obvious in view of the references cited in the Office Action dated September 24, 2002. As such, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1, 5-8, 14-18, 22-25, 31-43, 45-52 and 58-65 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Stupek, Jr. et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,586,304, in view of Burns et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,018,747. Applicant respectfully traverses with this as a basis for rejection.

Applicant's invention provides a method and system for managing software conflicts and computer readable storage medium having a program for executing the method wherein a database of stored conflict information is utilized. The method includes the steps of receiving change information regarding actual changes made to *files and other shared resources during*